



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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4-29-03
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In re the Application of

Jean-Luc TAUREL et al.

Group Art Unit: 3753

Application No.: 09/843,809

Examiner: A. Chambers

Filed: April 30, 2001

Docket No.: 109419

For: A FUEL TANK AND A METHOD OF MANUFACTURING IT

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

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APR 28 2003

Sir:

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

In reply to the March 26, 2003 Restriction Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect Group I, claims 1-26, with traverse.

It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

William P. Berridge

William P. Berridge
Registration No. 30,024

Jesse O. Collier
Registration No. 53,839

WPB:JOC/tea

Date: April 25, 2003

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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